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PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Reports from Manila—Cholera and smallpox at Manila—Cholera in the provinces—Abatement of the epidemic.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser reports, October 22 and November 10, 12, and 20, as follows:

The number of quarantinable diseases reported in Manila during the week ended October 31, 1903, is as follows:

| | Cases. | Deaths. |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| Cholera | 7 | 7 |
| Smallpox | 0 | 0 |
| Plague | 1 | 1 |

Week ended November 7, 1903:

| | Cases. | Deaths. |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| Cholera | 8 | 6 |
| Smallpox | 0 | 0 |
| Plague | 0 | 0 |

Week ended November 14, 1903:

| | Cases. | Deaths. |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| Cholera | 4 | 5 |
| Smallpox | 0 | 0 |
| Plague | 1 | 1 |

Abatement of cholera epidemic.

There is less cholera in the islands at present than at any time since the commencement of the present epidemic, and all indications point to the fact that the complete cessation of the disease may be looked for at an early date. The number of cases reported at the present time no doubt comes nearer being the true number of cases occurring than at any time in the past. This is due to the fact that many cases are diagnosed cholera which in ordinary times would not be thought of in that connection, and this makes up for the number of true cases which are not reported.

Cessation of plague in Cebu.

No cases of plague have been reported from Cebu during the same period. The service officer at Cebu has almost completed the fumigation of the entire shipping that enters Cebu Harbor, and the efficient manner in which it has been done has been the subject of much favorable comment. A peculiar feature of the plague at Cebu has been the fact that the disease subsided apparently of its own accord before any particular measures of the health authorities could be carried into effect.